DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's note:

The action mailed 10/9/2009 was, in fact, a non-final action. As is such, the Advisory Action of 2/22/2010 was unintentionally and improperly set forth and mailed to Applicant. Examiner hereby vacates said Advisory Action and has entered the amendment of 2/9/2010 into the record.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Carl Reed on 5/3/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, Line 3: --each-- has been inserted between "wedges" and "having".

Claim 1, Line 9: --each of-- has been inserted between "element, " and "the one".

Claim 1, Line 11: --direct-- has been inserted between "in" and "contact".

Claim 1, Line 12: --the first wedge shaped layer located between the second wedge-shaped layer and the at least one pre-tensioned or stressed tensile element,-- has been inserted between "layer," and "the".

Claim 1, Line 14: “other parts of the anchorage including” has been deleted.

Claim 1, Line 18: --and a greatest thickness of the second wedge-shaped layer, measured normal to the longitudinal axis of the tensile element, lies in the second region of the anchorage which is remote from the load,-- has been inserted between “load,” and “wherein”.

Claim 4 has been cancelled.

Claim 5, Line 4: “non-positive-connection” has been changed to --non-positive connection--.

Claim 9 has been cancelled.

Claim 15, Lines 3-4: --and at least one wedge including:-- has been inserted between “body;" and “a first wedge-shaped layer”.

Claim 15, Lines 4-5: --and-- has been inserted between “shape;” and “a second”.

Claim 15, Line 5: --direct-- has been inserted between “in” and “contact”.

Claim 15, Line 8: --wherein said first wedge-shaped layer is located between the second wedge-shaped layer and the at least one pre-tensioned or stressed tensile element-- has been inserted between "load" and ";".

Claim 15, Line 14: --layer-- has been inserted between "wedge-shaped" and "has".

Claim 15, Lines 15-16: "other parts of the anchorage including" has been deleted.

Claim 15, Line 21: --to more evenly distribute contact pressure on a contact area between the at least one pre-tensioned or stressed tensile element and the first and second wedge-shaped layers-- has been inserted between "load" and ".".

Claims 18-20 have been cancelled.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of the claims is that the prior art of record neither teaches nor suggests an anchorage for a pretensioned or stressed tensile element including an anchor body having an inclined surface against at least one or more wedges slides along to act against the tensile element to transmit the tensile force to the anchor body wherein each of the at least one wedge includes two layers such that the "a first wedge-shaped layer in direct contact with a second wedge-shaped layer, the first wedge-shaped layer located between the second wedge-shaped layer and the at least one pre-tensioned or stressed tensile element, the first wedge-shaped layer having a modulus of elasticity that is lower compared to the modulus of elasticity of the

second wedge-shaped layer, wherein a greatest thickness of the first wedge-shaped layer, measured normal to the longitudinal axis of the tensile element, lies in the first region of the anchorage which is near the load, and a greatest thickness of the second wedge-shaped layer, measured normal to the longitudinal axis of the tensile element, lies in the second region of the anchorage which is remote from the load" this arrangement and structure functions such that the first wedge-shaped layer lowers a stiffness of the one or more wedges in the first region near the load to more evenly distribute contact pressure on a contact area between the at least one pre-tensioned or stressed tensile element and the one or more wedges (Claim 1, Lines 11-22; Claim 15, Lines11-21). The closest prior art of record, Ozawa et al, Kollegger, Thal and Oizumi et al taken as a whole, disclose an anchorage system significantly as claimed, but does not provide any teaching, suggestion, or motivation to modify the prior art as such. There is no cogent reasoning that is unequivocally independent of hindsight that would have led one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the prior art to obtain the applicant's invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOSHUA T. KENNEDY whose telephone number is (571)272-8297. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 7:30am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Joshua T. Kennedy/
Examiner, Art Unit 3679
5/4/2010